



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

RECEIVED
DEC 19 2003

In re application of:

Robert W. Blakesley

Appl. No.: 09/883,183

Filed: June 19, 2001

For: **Methods for Preventing Inhibition
of Nucleic Acid Synthesis by
Pyrophosphate**

Confirmation No.: 1167
Art Unit: 1637
Examiner: Kim, Young
Atty. Docket: 0942.4150002

Petition for Extension of Time Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)(1)

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

It is hereby requested that the period for replying to the outstanding Office Action be extended four months from August 17, 2003 to December 17, 2003 by the filing of this Petition and fee payment.

The petition fee (37 C.F.R. § 1.17(a)) is believed to be \$1,480.00 for a four month extension for a large entity. Fee payment is provided in our accompanying PTO-2038 Credit Card Payment Form. However, if extensions of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 other than those provided herewith are required to prevent abandonment of the present patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

12/18/2003 AWONDAF1 00000030 09883183

02 FC:1254

1480.00 OP

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

Robert W. Esmond
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 32,893

Date: December 16, 2003

1100 New York Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005-3934
(202) 371-2600